FCI agreement with CWC of Andhra Pradesh

4682. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has any business dealings or agreements with the Central Warehouse Corporation (CWC) in Andhra Pradesh during the last year;

(b) the details of such an agreement or actual usage of any godown of the CWC by the FCI in the State;

(c) whether it is a fact that the FCI has refused to hire any space from the CWC during last year;

(d) whether it is a fact that the CWC could not come up to the commercial expectations of the FCI; and

(e) the details of the cause of the breakdown of the commercial relationship of FCI with CWC in 2003-2004 and 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) utilizes the godowns of the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) for storage of foodgrains, as per requirements. At present, 1.36 lakh MTs of storage space has been hired by the FCI from CWC in Andhra Pradesh Region under the Seven Year Guarantee Scheme.

(c) As the present storage capacity available with the FCI is sufficient to meet the storage requirements in the Andhra Pradesh Region, additional storage space is not being hired.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Computer purchases by FCI

4683. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that FCI has purchased 5000 computers against 10,000 employees Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS);

(b) if so, the quantum of money spent on the purchase of these computers, at what price these computers have been purchased, from whom and of what make; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaints in the procurement of these computers and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) With a view to rationalizing the manpower and reducing the establishment cost without compromising on the operational efficiency, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) introduced a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its employees in June, 2004. Under the scheme, a total of 8,777 employees of the FCI have taken retirement.

With a view to upgrading the Management Information system of the FCI, an 'Integrated Information System for Foodgrains Management' Project of the FCI was approved by the Government at a estimated cost of Rs. 97.66 crore, to be implemented in three Phases, commencing from 2003-04. So far 2448 computers have been purchased under the Project.

(b) The Government has released Rs. 54.64 crore to the FCI during 2003-04 and 2004-05 for implementation of the project. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 30.44 crore has been spent by the FCI towards the cost of hardware/software.

The computers have been supplied by the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI), a Government of India undertaking and are of Wipro, HCL, ACER and HP make. The purchase prices of the computers for Phase-I & II are enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

Statement

Prices of the Computers purchased by the FCI through the NICSI as per Purchase Order of the Suppliers in Phase-I & II are as under:

(Rs. per item)

Phase-I (Ist Lot) (2003-04)

1.	Intel Xenon based Server (for Headquarters)	2,52,384/-
2.	Intel Xenon based Server (for Regions)	2,76,445/-
3.	Intel Xenon based Server (for Depots & Districts)	1,74,326/-
4.	Pentium-IV @ 2.4. GHz clients (for Regions, Zones and Headquarters)	45,587/-
5.	Celeron @ 1.7 GHz clients (for Depots and Districts)	33,541/-

Phase-I (2nd Lot) (2003-04)

1. Intel Xenon based Server (for Depots & Districts) 1,63,806/-
2. Celeron @ 2.4 GHz clients (for Deports and Districts) 29,700/-

Phase-II (2004-05)

1. Intel Xenon based Server (for Depots & Districts) 1,63,806/-
2. Celeron @ 2.4 GHz clients (for Depots and Districts) 29,700/-

Revision of standard of drinking water by BIS

4684. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drinking water standards laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards in 1983 and subsequently revised and updated in 1991 (IS 10500), are presently being further revised;

(b) if so, the details thereof and their present status;

(c) whether a fresh review has been made to include drinking water under the category of "food" so that various agencies handling drinking water supplies can be legally held accountable for the bad quality of their supplies; and

(d) if so, the results thereof and what present Government contemplate on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the revision of the Indian Standard on Drinking Water IS 10500 : 1991 has been finalized by the relevant Sectional Committee of the Bureau of India Standards (BIS). The same is being taken up with the concerned Division Council of BIS for Adoption.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The final decision in this regard has not yet been taken.